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complicated, if not in its origin, at least in its progress, and almost always at the fatal termination, with local affections, and partial plethoras, generally of an inflammatory nature, which, at the close, produce abscesses in some of the vital organs. These local tendencies to increased action, are particularly noticeable in Typhus fever; and in those or more general, and violent reaction, the powers of life seem depressed at the close in *proportion* to their greater excitement at the beginning, so that the means of bringing down the strength of the re-action at first, viz by evacuations, particularly of timely blood-letting, will become the means of husbanding the vital power for the future and more formidable stages. It is only in their progress, and later periods that fevers acquire their contagious malignity, and a proper plan of depletion *early* resorted to, will prevent the production of a mass of contagion.

In other acute complaints, such as in the hydrocephalic fever, when early blood-letting is of such effectual service, it is much to be lamented that a more dexterous use of the lancet is not taught, and more frequently practised on children.* There is indeed a general timidity with respect to this mode of depletion, which spreads from the patient, and attendants to the operator, and which in general makes the operation itself imperfect and bungling. The faintishness of fear, or any accidental stoppage in the flow of blood is used as a pretence for suspending or deferring the evacuation, where the powers of life are often oppressed and suffocated from the want of it. It appears certain that inflammatory diseases, or local tendencies to increased action, have become much more frequent from causes not hard to assign, but which are, in a great degree, referable to the habitual use of stimulants in diet, drink, and *abuse of that class* of medicines, which forms the fashion, or the curse of the day, while the dram of the shop merely supercedes the dram of the cellar.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT,

From 20th October, till 20th September, 1810.

THE weather has been unusually fine for the last four weeks. There has seldom occurred a season more favourable for the state of crops, which were generally late in consequence of the backward spring.

The grain in a general way has been got into the haggards in good order, yet in several parts of the country there is still a good deal of corn in the fields, and even some to cut down, which must be injured by the wet windy weather that has lately set in unless a favourable change happens.

From the present prices of grain, it does not appear that the Act for allowing the public stills to work is likely to be attended with that rise on the provisions, that was some time ago predicted by the opposers of that measure; and if the reduction on the duty on spirits has the effect to stop, or even lessen private distillation, the farmers may obtain a fair price for their grain, the revenue of the country may be so far increased as to render it less necessary to lay on additional taxes, as was the case this year, and the poorer classes of the people may not suffer by an exorbitant price of provisions.

The potatoe crops have been much improved by the long continuance of fine weather this autumn, and now promise an abundant supply of that necessary and nutritious root.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THE bankruptcies which have lately so distressed the commercial world, and the inconveniences which although not yet terminating in bankruptcy, may end in that

* That very useful instrument, a scarificator, (when properly constructed), has received much improvement by the invention of Surgeon Shute, and is for sale at Mr. Winters, cutler, Bridge-street, London.